

Steven W. Troxler Commissioner

## North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Veterinary Division

David T. Marshall, DVM State Veterinarian

August 20, 2010

Mr. Ali-Karcar Nemati Ms. Judy Holderbaum Sunshine Family Pet Store 808 Merritt Drive Greensboro, NC 27407 Certified Mail

Re:

CEASE AND DESIST ORDER

Sunshine Family Pet Store

808 Merrit Drive

Greensboro, NC 27407

Dear Mr. Nemati and Ms. Holderbaum:

This letter is an order concerning your operation of a pet shop without a license. To date you have not applied for a license to operate a pet shop as required under G.S. 19A-27.

Further, your pet shop failed inspections conducted by this Department on August 4, 2010, and August 18, 2010, pursuant to the requirements set forth under the NC Animal Welfare Act.

A license is required for the operation of a pet shop that sells dogs and cats in North Carolina. Because you have not applied for a license you are notified to **CEASE AND DESIST** operation of a pet shop selling dogs and cats within ten days of your receipt of this letter. You may submit an application for licensure and plan of veterinary care, with the application fee of \$50.00, during this ten day period. However, no license will be issued to your pet shop unless it is found to be in compliance with minimum standards upon inspection. If your pet shop fails to come into compliance with those standards this Department will determine whether to require you to immediately cease offering dogs and cats for sale or, as a matter within its discretion, grant you additional time in which to come into compliance.

If you do not apply for a license and the Department finds that you are operating a pet shop selling dogs or cats, the Department has the authority to issue you a civil penalty of up to \$5,000.00. If you are found to be in violation of any other provisions of the applicable law or rules, you may be assessed additional civil penalties for each violation found.

## § 19A-40. Civil Penalties.

The Director may assess a civil penalty of not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) against any person who violates a provision of this Article or any rule promulgated thereunder. In determining the amount of the penalty, the Director shall consider the degree and extent of harm caused by the violation. The clear proceeds of civil penalties assessed pursuant to this section shall be remitted to the Civil Penalty and Forfeiture Fund in accordance with G.S. 115C-457.2.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact our office at (919) 715-7111.

Sincerely,

for Dr. Lee Hunter, DVM
Director Arian

Director, Animal Welfare Section

## **Enclosures**

Dr. David Marshall, DVM, State Veterinarian cc:

Mr. Barry Bloch, Assistant Attorney General, NC Department of Justice